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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/770,295	02/02/2004	Jane Wen Chang	11646-006002	1408

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EXAMINER

BETIT, JACOB F

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/770,295	Applicant(s) CHANG ET AL.	
	Examiner Jacob F. B��tit	Art Unit 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C.   133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C.   119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C.   119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/27/2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 27 March 2007 has been entered.

Remarks

2. In response to communications filed on 28 February 2007, claims 1 and 5 have been amended per the applicant's request. Claims 1-7 are presently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faisal (U.S. patent no. 6,094,652) in view of Gupta et al. (U.S. patent No. 5,826,258).

As to claim 1, Faisal teaches a computer-implemented method of accessing information from a collection of data comprising:

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receiving a query (see column 3, lines 57-65);

generating an inverse index of the collection of data that is augmented with category hierarchy information (see column 4, lines 26-64); and

generating results to the query in conjunction with the inverse index by performing a search request of the inverse index, and wherein a match to an item in the inverse index also retrieves corresponding category hierarchy information stored with the inverse index (see column 4, lines 38-49).

Faisal does not distinctly disclose using results from the search request with a search request of a relational database management system, and the category hierarchy information is then mapped to items in the relational database management system in performing the search request of the relational database management system.

Gupta et al. teaches this, see column 2, lines 16-40 and see column 9, lines 5-12. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Faisal to include the teachings of Gupta et al. because these teachings would allow users of the system to access current data in a structured manner.

As to claim 2, Faisal modified, teaches wherein generating the inverse index comprises: storing a canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index (see Faisal, column 4, lines 38-49 and see column 6, lines 8-63).

As to claim 3, Faisal modified, teaches wherein generating fine inverse index further comprises:

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storing the category hierarchical information generated from the collection of data with the inverse index (see Faisal, column 4, lines 46-64);

applying a parser and grammar rules to the collection of data to produce a canonical non-terminal representation of the data (see Faisal, column 5, lines 6-44).

As to claim 4, Faisal modified, teaches wherein the generating results comprises:

applying the parser and the grammar rules to the query to produce a query canonical form (see Faisal, column 5, lines 45-67); and

matching the query canonical form to the canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index (see Faisal, column 6, lines 1-31).

As to claim 5, Faisal teaches a computer program, residing on a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive a query (see column 3, lines 57-65);

generate an inverse index of a collection of data that is augmented with category hierarchy information (see column 4, lines 26-64); and

generate results to the query in conjunction with the inverse index by performing a search request of the inverse index, and wherein a match to an item in the inverse index also retrieves corresponding category hierarchy information stored with the inverse index (see column 4, lines 38-49).

Faisal does not distinctly disclose using results from the search request with a search request of a relational database management system, and the category hierarchy

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information is then mapped to items in the relational database management system in performing the search request of the relational database management system.

Gupta et al. teaches this, see column 2, lines 16-40 and see column 9, lines 5-12.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Faisal to include the teachings of Gupta et al. because these teachings would allow users of the system to access current data in a structured manner.

As to claim 6, Faisal as modified, teaches further comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

store the category hierarchical information generated from the data in the inverse index with the inverse index (see Faisal, column 4, lines 46-64); and

apply a parser and grammar rules to the data to produce canonical non-terminal representations of the data in the inverse index (see Faisal, column 5, lines 6-44).

As to claim 7, Faisal modified, teaches further comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

apply the parser and grammar rules to the query to generate a query canonical form (see Faisal, column 5, lines 45-67); and

match the query canonical form to the non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index (see Faisal, column 6, lines 1-31).

Response to Arguments

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5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob F. Bétit whose telephone number is (571) 272-4075. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

jfb

8 Jun 2007


Nween Abd-Jalil